

The Sex Shop Story

by

Thom Goddard

Notes:

This play is a monologue, a duologue with 2 people playing all the characters or 5 performers. This script is formatted for 5 actors but please adapt for the audience.

The LEAD and all characters are not gender specific. Please adapt for your audience.

SETTING:

There is no specific setting.
If a MONOLOGUE, the LEAD could be alone anywhere.
If multiple actors, then a desk and shopping bags complete the scenes.

LEAD

Have you ever worked in sales? You know, selling things in a store? The following is a true story of how I fell in love with sales. No, it really is.
One day a friend of mine called.

(SOUND: *Phone ringing*)

LEAD

(*Answering the phone*)

Hey, so good to hear from you. How...
Right now? Sure. You know what they say 'When a friend's in need, you gotta help so they can succeed.'

PAUSE

I don't know. I heard it somewhere.
Don't worry I'll be there soon.

(*Phone call ended*)

LEAD

So, I headed to the address and imagine, to my amazement, that my friend's place was actually an adult novelty store. You know, a sex shop. No wonder they'd never talked about what she/he did for a living at family engagements! Can you imagine Christmas? "Yeah grandma, I know crotchless panties may seem a little tasteless but you did tell me you only wanted something I could just pick up at work".

Now, I don't know about you but I've never been in an adult novelty shop before. And looking at you it's obvious... well, by the looks of it, you probably have been in one before. But I hadn't. So it was with some trepidation that I slowly opened the front door and went in. And my, what a sight. Erotic toys, every book about sex under the sun, clothes for all kinds of sexual fantasies and a whole smorgasbord of things to liven up your love life from board games to a full-size mechanical bull but with a naked man doll in, shall we say, 'full arousal'. A gift for the lady/guy who has everything no doubt - yeeha! To many it was an ordinary store that catered to something we all do but no-one talks about but to me it was genuinely like entering a whole new world.

Enter STORE OWNER/FRIEND

STORE OWNER

Oh, thank you so much for coming to help me.

LEAD

No problem. Erm, what is this place?

STORE OWNER

It's the family business.

LEAD

Yes, very family orientated, a sex shop.

STORE OWNER

(laughing)

Don't think of any of the things we sell as perverted. We just offer adult materials to discerning people.

And in keeping with that, I asked you down here as I just need you to watch the shop for 10 minutes while I deliver the money we made on the weekend to the bank.

LEAD

Hold on.! I don't know anything about selling stuff in a store, let alone a sex shop.

STORE OWNER

Ah, there's nothing to it. Basically, the golden rule is: everything is for sale.

LEAD

But I've never sold anything in my life.

STORE OWNER

Don't worry. Just remember: everything is for sale.

LEAD
(looking around, worried)

Everything?

STORE OWNER
Everything. And if it doesn't have a price tag on it, just guess how much to sell it for. If it doesn't sell, it doesn't matter. But if you can sell it, do it. You'll do great.

Exit STORE OWNER/FRIEND

LEAD
After no more reassurance than a pat on the back, they grabbed the money, put me in place behind the seller's counter and left the store to go to the bank. As the door was closing behind them a customer came into the shop. They looked around, seemingly a little embarrassed, and slowly moved through the place until they stood opposite me.

Enter FIRST CUSTOMER

FIRST CUSTOMER
(giggling)
Hello, I've never been in one of these 'places' before but I'm looking for something for my friend. You know, as a bit of joke.

LEAD
Ok. I'm new here myself so tell me what you'd like and I'll try to help.

FIRST CUSTOMER
Well, I don't know but I like the look of that shiny thing on the shelf behind you.

The LEAD picks up a silver vibrator.

LEAD
This one? Erm, let's have a look. It's called a 'Silver Stallion' and promises 'All the pleasure, All the time'. There's no price tag on it so shall we say \$30?

FIRST CUSTOMER
That seems ok. And it will make my friend laugh so ok.

The FIRST CUSTOMER pays,
the vibrator is put in a bag
and the customer leaves.

Exit FIRST CUSTOMER.

LEAD

Woo hoo! My first sale. Like, ever. And I did it in a sex shop. Maybe I have a future in the sex industry. Oh, no! That's not what I mean. Anyway, as I was putting the cash into the register another customer came in to the store but this one did not look around as they strode straight up to the counter.

Enter SECOND CUSTOMER

SECOND CUSTOMER

I need something special for my partner's birthday.

LEAD

Yes, ok. Do you see anything you'd like? I mean, anything they'd like? Erm, anything you want to buy?"

SECOND CUSTOMER

(looking and something catches their eye)

Wow, what's that gold one?

LEAD

(SUPPOSITION - to audience)

I looked down, through the counter's glass top, and there was a gleaming, gold sex toy. I took it out, using only my finger-tips - I didn't want to touch it, and read the label:

(continues - to SECOND CUSTOMER)

'The Golden Heaven - guaranteed to take you to paradise'.

SECOND CUSTOMER

That sounds like the one. And it looks expensive so it's a perfect present. How much?

LEAD

There's no price tag but it is gold so... \$50?

SECOND CUSTOMER

You know... ok. It's for a birthday.

The customer pays,
'The Golden Heaven' goes in a bag,
still using only 2 fingers,
and they leave.

Exit SECOND CUSTOMER

LEAD

Another satisfied customer. I mean, they were satisfied by what they bought. I mean HAPPY, happy with what they bought. That's it, another happy customer.

But before I could celebrate my now 2 sex shop sales another person was waiting. I didn't see them come in to the store but standing in front of me was this nervous and nerdy looking individual. Reminded me of me - before I started working in the sex industry. Just 5 minutes ago.

Enter THIRD CUSTOMER

LEAD

Can I help you?

THIRD CUSTOMER

(nervous)

Erm, yes. Thank you. I mean, please. Yes, please. I'm looking for something special.

LEAD

Well, you've come to the right place. All the sales have been 'special' so far today. Who are you buying for, a partner, a friend...

THIRD CUSTOMER

(interrupts)

Me. It's for me.

LEAD

OK.

THIRD CUSTOMER

You see I've been having a bit of a bad time of late and I want something... something naughty. Just for me. My little secret to cheer me up.

LEAD

OK, no problem.

THIRD CUSTOMER

Oh good. The, the, the trouble is I know what I'm looking for but I don't know if it's available.

LEAD

Everything's for sale in this place.

THIRD CUSTOMER

(happy)

Oh goody, I'm a bit shy but I like that big, red one by the cash register.

LEAD

(laughing)

Oh no. This isn't for sale because it's...

THIRD CUSTOMER

Please, I absolutely love it.

LEAD

(laughing even more)

No, you don't understand. This isn't a sex toy, it's a...

THIRD CUSTOMER

PLEASE, I really, really want it. And I'm prepared to pay anything.

The LEAD picks up the 'red thing'
but doesn't reveal it to the audience.

[IF MONOLOGUE:

So remembering what my friend had said about everything being for sale I picked up the big, long, red thing by the cash register.]

LEAD

(thinking)

You know, this is a specialist item. It's one of a kind. I'm going to have to charge you a premium. It's \$150.

THIRD CUSTOMER

Oh my god. One hundred and fifty is so much. But, you know, owning this unique item will improve my state of mind. The thrill of owning something so naughty. And I suppose you only live once.

The customer pays,
The red toy goes in a bag,
and they leave.

Exit THIRD CUSTOMER

[IF MONOLOGUE:

So the last customer paid and left the store with a huge smile on their face. Just as my friend returned from the bank.]

Enter STORE OWNER/FRIEND

STORE OWNER

Wow, that looked like one happy shopper. I take it you were ok being left here for 10 minutes?

LEAD

OK? I was more than ok. I've sold 3 things.

STORE OWNER

That's amazing, what happened?

LEAD

Well, I got \$30 for a silver vibrator.

STORE OWNER

Nice.

LEAD

Then I got \$50 for a gold dildo.

STORE OWNER

Impressive.

LEAD

And I got \$150... for your fire extinguisher.

THE END